

CHARLES TAYLOR MASTER MECHANIC'S AWARD

**Fairbanks Flight Standards District
Office Honoree 1999**

H. STANLEY HALVERSON



HALVERSON, H. STANLEY

(STAN). Stan was born August 31, 1930, in Ketchikan, Alaska. At age four, his family moved to the West Coast. He completed high school at Port Angeles, Washington.

Stan's aviation career started in 1948. He attended the Cal-Aero Technical Institute in Glendale, California (an airframe and engine technical school). The CAA issued his Mechanic Certificate, with engine rating, on December 15, 1949. His first aviation job was with Pacific Aeromotive in Burbank, California, in 1949/50. On July 14, 1950, he was issued his Airframe rating, and on May 26, 1964, his Inspection Authorization.

From 1950-1957, he worked for Boeing Aircraft Company, in Renton, Washington and Boeing Field, Washington. His varied tasks there included: converting B-29 and B-50 aircraft to air tankers, manufacture/production of KC-97 air tankers, and line maintenance at the experimental flight station for Boeing 707 and B-52 aircraft.

During his tenure at Boeing, he was a reservist in the United States Air Force, and was called to active duty for one and

a half years during the Korean War. He was stationed at the Rapid City, South Dakota, SAC Base, working on B-36 aircraft, and later in Japan, working as Maintenance Crew Chief on F-94s.

In 1957, while attending the University of Washington (part-time), and still employed by Boeing, he met fellow student, Richard Wien, from Fairbanks, Alaska. Richard talked Stan into coming to work for his family airline, Wien Airlines, in Fairbanks, Alaska. Stan drove to Fairbanks in a 1951 Ford, and worked in the Wien maintenance department from 1957 to 1968.

Stan and his wife, Janet, were married in 1957; they have three children, Wayne, Ivar, Ann and seven grandchildren.

In 1960/61, while still employed by Wien Airlines, Stan formed a partnership with Richard and Merrill Wien, and operated two B-25 fire bombers. In 1961, they bought a Hiller helicopter and started Merric Helicopters, where Stan was the Director of Maintenance. Their business expanded with more Hillers and Bell 47 helicopters. When Stan resigned from Wien Airlines in 1968, Merric became his full-time job. In 1973, Rowan Drilling (ERA Helicopters) purchased Merric, and Stan stayed on as Director of Maintenance for the Northern Division.

In 1967, Stan was awarded the Mechanic of the Year Award by the Federal Aviation Administration for his Hiller helicopter fuel system modification which increased the reliability of the system, and therefore the safety of the aircraft.

Stan retired from ERA in 1995, when they closed their Fairbanks' base. He is

still working on-call when ERA needs maintenance assistance in this district.

Stan and his wife still reside in Fairbanks, where Stan continues to remain active in local aviation matters and maintains his own aircraft, a Cessna 172.